Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

had the same signification—"he makes to live," or "he makes to be"—he concluded that the Syrian Yahveh [Baal-peor] and the Jewish Yahveh [Jehovah] were one and the same deity, though not worshipped with the same images or ceremonies, the Syrians exhibiting their emblems on every high hill and under every green tree; the Jews mysteriously concealing their emblems in an ark or coffer. Clemens Alexandrinus had shown the phallic purpose of the mystic arks of Egypt; and Mr. Sellon inferred a somewhat similar purpose to have been subserved by the Ark of the Covenant.

The Meeting then adjourned.

May 15th, 1866.

JAMES HUNT, ESQ., PH.D., F.S.A., F.R.S.L., PRESIDENT, IN THE CHAIR.

The minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The following gentlemen were announced as having been elected Fellows: John Fraser, Esq., 75, Tithebarn Street, Liverpool; Dr. Frederick Skues, Staff Assistant-Surgeon, 2, St. John's Road, Upper Holloway; Thomas Laurie, Esq., Longstone Terrace, Greenwich; John O'Connell Byrne, Esq., 24, Mark Lane; Edwin Lander, Esq., Consul, Birmingham; Charles Hamond Alpe, Esq., 37, Montpellier Road, Peckham; Charles O'Callaghan, Esq., M.D., Killarney.

Frederick Edward Pearse, L.R.C.P. Ed., High Cross, Sampford Peverell, near Tiverton, was elected a Local Secretary for Tiverton.

The following present was announced, and thanks were voted for the same. Photographs of Andaman Islanders (J. Bainbridge Baxter, Esq. M.R.C.S.)

Mr. BAXTER said, with reference to the photographs of Andaman Islanders presented, that the seven persons photographed (two men and five women), were brought to Calcutta, but though the islands were so near to that presidency, little was known of the race who inhabited them. The principal thing remarkable in the form of the skull, was a depression on the top of the head in the female, which he believed was caused by carrying heavy weights on their heads. He believed the race was fast dying out, therefore the photographs possessed additional interest.

The PRESIDENT observed that the Society were anxious to have such photographs; they had been accompanied by extracts from the Indian papers, giving an account of the individuals, and the subject would be brought forward at a future meeting.

The following papers were read:—

On the Analogous Forms of Implements among Early and Primitive Races. By HODDER M. WESTROPP, Esq., F.A.S.L. (The paper will appear at length in the *Memoirs.*)

The author commented on the great identity which prevailed in the instruments of warfare, and tools used in countries most widely apart. Man, in all ages, and all stages of his development, was a tool-making animal, and his instincts and necessities lead him to fashion instruments and tools suited to his requirements. The same universal process of mind and instinct will lead the Australian, the New Zealander, the Peruvian, and the Scandinavian, to shape and fashion a stone weapon. The author described in some detail the characteristic forms of the gravel drift, flint implements of Ireland, and polished stone implements. The following terms were proposed by the author to distinguish them—Palæolithic, Mesolithic, Kainolithic. He briefly discussed the chief antiquities of the bronze age, and remarked that the same alloy (10 or 13 per cent. of tin) existed in the bronze weapons of Europe, Egypt, Peru, and Mexico.

The PRESIDENT said he was very sorry that Mr. Westropp was not present to answer the questions to which his paper would probably give rise, but it was very suggestive, and he was sure the Society would return their thanks to the author. It opened a large question, and indulged in some wild speculations, for which there seemed no sufficient data; the assertion that civilisation proceeded in a universal sequence, seemed to have little foundation, and in the present state of knowledge, the facts were so limited, that it was not safe to draw any conclusions on the subject. To show how little reliance is to be placed on isolated facts as indications of the state of civilisation, he mentioned, on the authority of a clergyman, that in Zetland, a woman was seen cutting cabbages with a stone implement, identical with those usually attributed to the stone age.

Mr. T. BAINES explained the manner in which the manufacture of stone spear-heads is carried on in Australia, and stated that some stone implements have recently been discovered in Africa, near the Fish River, which were not now used by the natives, and pointed to the existence of a race of men in that part of Africa before it was occupied by the Hottentot. In Australia the natives use stone weapons at the present day. On one occasion he came to a place where there had been a manufacture of those weapons, numerous chippings being found about the spot. He stated that in making the implements, a large stone is selected to act as an anvil, and against it the natives strike the stone to be chipped into form; three chips, supposing every blow to tell perfectly, would be produced in forming one weapon, but allowing for failures we may suppose at least thirty to be necessary. There were many failures, and those, with the pieces of stone chipped off, were lying about the spot where the supposed manufactory of the implements had been carried on. It was impossible, he said, that the implements found could have been produced accidentally, in confirmation of which opinion he referred to the fact, that nothing approaching the shape of a spearhead is ever found among stones broken for road making.

Professor MACDONALD said the kind of stone implements found was no indication of the age of civilisation, inasmuch as the character of the implements must depend in a great measure on the nature of the stone of which they were made. Bronze and iron implements were a safer index of the course of civilisation, for in such cases the same material was fashioned in different forms. The axe implements of the present day are, in general form, similar to those of early times, with the exception of the mode of fixing the handle, and the discovery of the time when that change was made might be useful in ascertaining the progress of civilisation.

Mr. HIGGINS observed that similarity in the composition of the bronze employed in making implements, did not bear out the views of the author of the paper, for every people would try what mixture of tin and copper was best adapted for the purpose, and would soon obtain the same results. He considered it as established, that people who had once acquired the art of making iron implements never went back again to stone.

Mr. C. CARTER BLAKE observed, in reference to that part of the paper in which Mr. Westropp noticed the similarity of the proportions of copper and tin in all bronze implements, that it was very surprising that in Peru, where tin was almost unknown before the time of Columbus, the inhabitants should have been possessed of good workable bronze. In Mexico, where tin was common, the fact was not surprising.

Rev. DUNBAR HEATH pointed out the distinction which mineralogists make between cleavage and fracture in the class of stones likely to be adopted in forming weapons, and considered that the shapes of the implements must consequently vary with the nature of the stone. All the vitreous class of stones have a conchoidal fracture, and they cannot be broken in straight planes, the surface of the fracture being either concave or convex. Flint, for example, has a conchoidal fracture, and from the description that had been given of the method of making stone implements, it might be inferred that if made of flint, they would present conchoidal fractures.

Mr. PINKERTON remarked that gun flints are perfectly flat, and he thought much might be learnt respecting the ancient flint implements from the makers of modern gun flints. Many of the common flints found in this country, he said, have a completely straight cleavage, and on one side are perfectly flat.

Major OWEN said the fracture of flint was no doubt conchoidal, but when broken in large pieces, the fracture appears flat, and in making gun flints, the flattest parts are selected for the lower surface, and the surrounding parts are broken off.

Mr. BAINES said that the Australians use jasper and agate for their spearheads, and for their axes and other implements they make use of trap rock.

Professor MACDONALD observed that flint is only found embedded in chalk, which does not exist in Denmark, therefore it became a curious question, whence the flint implements discovered there were derived.

Mr. HENRY BROOKES thought it was a mistake on the part of the author of the paper, to attempt to fix a date to civilisation by the use of those implements, unless they were found generally in the same country, and used by the same race. It was possible that in some countries civilisation had advanced to a high pitch among one portion of the people, while others might be in the rudest state, as was found to be the case at the present time. In some parts of the kingdom, as the President had mentioned, stone implements might still be used, but they did not belong to our age; the people who used them had simply been left behind in the progress of civilisation, and their existence did not stamp our period. The discovery of races using bronze or stone implements, merely indicated that the people were the remnants of races that have not intermixed with the rest of mankind. It was probable that civilisation might have progressed for many thousands of years, and yet there might be races who had not arrived beyond the first stage.

Mr. Mackenzie adverted to the fact that implements made of the same kind of stone, and of similar construction, are found in a variety of districts; that similarity was by no means an index to the comparative age of civilisation, for all the stages of civilisation might exist together for a long period. He held the opinion that the earth was older than one can conceive. He did not suppose that we all originated from Adam, but that we were all children of Mother Earth, and it was possible that the advance of all the periods of civilisation was aided by Mother Earth. That doctrine, he knew, was laughed at by modern science, but modern science had not yet corrected it.

The President called on Mr. Mackenzie to confine his remarks to the question before the meeting.

Mr. Mackenzie, in continuation, observed that there was no evidence to support the views of the author of this paper. They should try to find some uniformity of design between the implements discovered in various parts of the globe. Such implements were very likely to be imitated, and it was desirable to obtain a standard of flint implements, by which they might be gauged. One of the most perfect, he thought, was one brought from the Zetland Islands by Dr. Hunt.

Mr. Dibley considered that there is a general uniformity of design perceptible in the flint implements found in all parts of the world; the idea in every case being to make an instrument that would cut; but varying slightly in form according to the nature of the stone.

The President thought the author of the paper did not go far enough to prove his position. If he could establish an analogy between the character of the implements and the state of general civilisation, it would be important, but he had not done so, and the paper was rather speculative than scientific. He hoped that in some future communication on the subject, the author would be able to show that all the early people who inhabited the earth had analogous forms of flint or stone implements.

Professor Macdonald remarked that in the forming of stone implements, there could be no more ingenuity exercised by one race of men than by another, for they would be made of such form as the rock would permit. The progress of civilisation, as indicated by implements, could therefore only be traced in those made of bronze or iron, which admitted of the exercise of greater art.

After a few remarks from Dr. Caplin, on the varieties of stone from which cutting implements might be made, the discussion ended.